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SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

# The Journal Register

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March 26, 2020 | Vol. CLXX, No. 10 | \$1.00

www.journalregister.turley.com

## COVID-19

### Stores, restaurants practice social distancing

By Jonah Snowden  
jsnowden@turley.com

REGION — As of March 24 at noon, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker ordered closed all non-essential businesses to workers, customers and the public. This order will remain in effect until April 7 at noon.

Since this announcement, local supermarkets and restaurants have been taking precautionary measures to ensure each customer that visits has a clean and safe environment.

In Governor Baker's March 24 emergency order, Baker encouraged restaurants, bars and other establishments that sell food and beverage products to the public to continue selling these products, as long as they follow social distancing protocols and offer food for take-out and delivery.

One business paying attention to the social distancing protocol is the Jane Alden Dairy Store on N. Main St. in Palmer.

Gita Patel, the manager, said that they are choosing to stay open, are keeping a distance from the customers and cleaning everything they touch, including the doors, and are restricting social gatherings inside the store.

She also said that essential items, such as milk, can be purchased at the store, but as of March 20, they had run out of toilet paper.

For questions or information of products the store sells, call 413-283-5218, or visit their Facebook page, under the same name as the store.

Another local supermarket that has been taking necessary precautions is Adams Hometown Market, located in Monson on Main St.

At a store level, manager Jeffrey Prindle said that they are trying to get their orders out way in advance, and trying to make sure that their customers have all of the essential items that they will need, such as meats and produce, since there is a limit of these items going through the pipeline right about now.

Prindle said that certain departments from a service end have been shut down, so the employees can avoid any hand-to-hand contact. This means the market's hot foods program is discontinued as of now, the market's deli is offering pre-sliced meat, and they are also not selling single units of bagels, to avoid having customers reaching into bins.

He said that they are very focused on providing their customers the basic needs, "to make sure people have what they need for this temporary crisis."

The market is now open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and is allowing a grace period for senior citizens, first responders, and anybody who is immune compromised, to do their shopping between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. Employees will also be at the door to ensure that they are the only ones doing their shopping so that they have a chance to get the essential items they need without the struggles of large crowds.

The market has three deep cleanings at 7 a.m., 11 a.m., and 3 p.m., and again when the store closes. Employees also sanitizing their hands minute by minute and wearing gloves while they work. For more information on the market, visit <https://www.adamshometownmarkets.com/>, or call 413-267-3144.

## Enjoying the outdoors



Zachary Rivest of Palmer enjoying the early spring snow and practicing his social distancing. March 23, 2020.

## COMMUNITY

### Jail pauses inmate visits to slow virus



Submitted photo

Sheriff Nick Cocchi details the Hampden County Sheriff's Department response to the coronavirus pandemic at the county jail in Ludlow last week.

By Elise Linscott  
elinscott@turley.com

The Hampden County Sheriff's Department is making several operational changes in light of the coronavirus pandemic, including temporarily pausing inmate visits and requiring professional visitors to wear face masks.

The department recently had one person placed in preventative medical quarantine for showing symptoms potentially associated with COVID-19, according to a press release. But as of March 13, that person was symptom-free and determined not to be ill and was removed from preventative medical quarantine.

The department last week held a press conference and announced a number of temporary operational changes, including pausing inmate visits for 60 days or until the threat of COVID-19 passes, authorizing two hours of free phone calls per week and giving each inmate three free envelopes per week.

"These are unprecedented times and to adapt, and best protect our staff, the offenders in our care and the general public, we are taking unprecedented measures that impact virtually every aspect of our operations," said Hampden County Sheriff Nick Cocchi. "None of these decisions were made lightly and we will continually be evaluating our decisions over the coming weeks to ensure that these changes remain necessary and are the best way to ensure the health and safety of every staff member and person in our care."

Other operational changes include temporarily stopping all offender-based programming and reducing programming provided by the sheriff's department; allowing attorney, clergy and court-ordered visits only if they wear face masks and in a non-contact manner; and altering the PVTA's Stonybrook Express bus line, which is subsidized by the sheriff's department and

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## GOVERNMENT

### Baker-Polito Administration files legislation to address challenges during COVID-19

BOSTON — On Tuesday, the Baker-Polito Administration filed *An Act to Further Address Challenges Faced by Municipalities and School Districts Resulting from COVID-19*, which would provide administrative relief to state and local government entities impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak, including modifying local permitting processes, enabling municipalities to extend tax and finance deadlines, and extending deadlines for certain education requirements.

#### Full details on proposed changes in the legislation include:

Suspending the cap on hours and compensation for retired employees collecting a pension for hours worked during the state of emergency, allowing municipalities to tap qualified workers when their workforces might be disrupted.

Permitting establishments licensed to sell alcohol for on-premises consumption to sell wine and beer by take-out and delivery, provided that the wine or beer is sold in the original sealed container, is sold in the same transaction as a purchase of food and is not over certain volume limitations.

Modifying the local permitting process during the state of emergency by:

Providing that no permit is automatically granted, approved, or denied because a local permitting authority is unable to act

within a time period required by law.

Providing that any permit that is currently valid will not lapse or expire during the state of emergency and suspends any time limitation on such permits during the emergency.

Allowing applications for permits to be filed electronically, to eliminate the need for in-person filing.

Suspending any requirement that a hearing on a permit application be held within a certain period until 45 days after the end of the state of emergency.

Extending municipal tax deadlines by allowing municipalities to waive late-payment penalties for 4th quarter tax bills, which are due May 1. In addition, municipalities could change their tax bill due date from April 1 to June 1.

Allowing municipalities to extend the deadline for property tax exemptions and deferrals. The current statutory deadline is April 1, and this would allow municipalities to extend it to June 1.

Permitting Regional School Districts to suspend the statutory-required vote on the approval of their fiscal year 2021 budget and allowing the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to certify an amount sufficient for the operation of the district, until a budget can be adopted.

Modifying the MCAS by per-

## EDUCATION

### Hitchcock Free Academy welcomes director Cynthia Skowrya

By Jonah Snowden  
jsnowden@turley.com

BRIMFIELD — Brimfield resident Cynthia Skowrya brings many years of experience in community relations, marketing, event planning and more in her new position as executive director of Hitchcock Free Academy, following the departure of Sue Gregory on Feb. 29 after more than 30 years.

One of the main reasons that Skowrya chose to take her new position at Hitchcock Academy was the chance to provide different new programs and ideas to Brimfield and surrounding communities through the same place that she, parents — Joseph and Jean Skowrya — her aunts and uncles, family friends and people she grew up, with previously attended.

"Here I can be this resource in my own hometown community, and provide things for people,

whether its cultural or educational, or just something social," said Skowrya.

Some of Skowrya's experience in leadership comes from her previous positions as vice president of community relations at Bank of America in Worcester from 2001 to 2004, and the director of programs and events for the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce from 2005 to 2013.

When working as the vice president of community relations at Bank of America, Skowrya managed the review and distribution of a \$2 million budget including grants and sponsorships throughout Central and Western Mass. She also initiated strategies, built and maintained strategic partnerships and relationships with regional and local leaders, community-based



Cynthia Skowrya

organizations, nonprofits, and community development organizations in support of community initiatives.

As the director of programs and events for the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, Skowrya's responsibilities included directing, planning, creating and managing the execution of program and event details for 50-plus events a year that comprised \$1 million of the budgets for the largest chamber in New England. She also handled all aspects of vetting, negotiating and contracting nationally prominent speakers and event venues, along with other responsibilities.

One of Skowrya's biggest accomplishments as the director

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## COMMUNITY

### United Way of Pioneer Valley announces Recovery & Relief Fund

SPRINGFIELD — United Way of Pioneer Valley has established the COVID-19 Recovery and Relief Fund to provide aid and resources to those affected by the current public health emergency. As the pandemic unfolds and schools, events and workplaces

close, hourly, low-wage workers and many others will experience unprecedented financial hardship. In Massachusetts, two in five workers lack sufficient savings to withstand a sudden loss in wages.

Funds collected for this Emergency Relief Fund will help fam-

ilies and individuals impacted by the pandemic to meet their basic, childcare, housing and financial needs.

Your community needs your help now more than ever. Please visit [uwpv.org/covid19](http://uwpv.org/covid19). Every donation helps those in need!



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COVID | page 5

## Massachusetts launches COVID-19 text message notification system

BOSTON — The Baker-Polito Administration on Tuesday announced the launch of a new text-based notification system to deliver important information about the Commonwealth's COVID-19 response to Massachusetts residents.

"Throughout this outbreak, we have consistently reminded our residents to get their information from trusted sources. Today we're making that easier," said Governor Charlie Baker. "With the addition of this new communication tool, we're making it easier for everyone to stay informed about state actions and important announcements related to COVID-19."

The new messaging tool called "AlertsMA" will allow residents to subscribe to real-time notifications by texting the keyword **COVIDMA** to **888-777**. After signing up, state and public health officials can send short messages and links to information directly to a resident's cell phone or other mobile device.

"Being well-informed during this public health emergency, and following health officials' advice, can help us to slow and eventually stop the spread of COVID-19 in our communities," said Secretary Marylou Sudders, the Commonwealth's COVID-19 Command Center Director. "Staying connected with our residents is a central part of our response."

The AlertsMA notifications can be used to share news, prevention information, and help connect residents to information that they are looking for through other public information channels, such as the state's Information line, 2-1-1, and website searches on Mass. Gov.

The Commonwealth's Executive Office of Technology Services and Security partnered with Everbridge, whose platform powers AlertsMA, to bring the notification service online during the COVID-19 response. Everbridge is a Massachusetts-based company located in Burlington. The company's notification service is assisting the public health response around the country, including New York City, San Francisco, and Houston.

"During this public health emergency, it is increasingly important that we leverage technology to enhance our ability to communicate with the residents and businesses of the Commonwealth," said Secretary of Technology Services and Security Curtis M. Wood. "This text message notification service is a tool that reaches people in the easiest way possible — on their mobile devices — to keep them informed on the latest updates from the Commonwealth."

"Statewide public notification systems like AlertsMA will keep people safe and businesses running when critical events occur," said David Meredith, CEO of Burlington-based Everbridge. "With our headquarters here in Massachusetts, Everbridge proudly serves the Commonwealth as their statewide mass notification provider, keeping citizens informed during COVID-19. We would like to thank the Governor and the State for their continued prioritization on emergency readiness, response and communications."

The Commonwealth will promote the service on Mass.gov, through digital displays and billboards at the MBTA, via MassDOT, and through social media.

## Featured photo of the week



Turley Publications staff photo by Elise Linscott

**Empty shelves at Big Y on Thorndike St. in Palmer, which was completely sold out of toilet paper at 5 p.m. on March 13. Many stores have been reporting shortages of items like toilet paper and bottled water. (Editor's note: Now more than ever, when shopping please only buy what is really necessary. Even in the case of a shelter in place order, grocery stores and essential businesses will remain open. Searching for out of stock items also makes life more difficult for stressed medical workers and others battling against this pandemic, and for those who have limited time or resources.)**

## Applicants Sought For A Better Monson

The Grace Makepeace Trust for Historic Preservation is seeking applicants within the Town of Monson to apply for grants from the Trust.

The Trust will consider requests from persons or organizations up to \$1000.00 for projects that fall into the following categories and criteria.

1. Maintaining the responsibilities of the Monson Historical Commission
2. Support of any property bequeathed or devised to the Town of Monson for historic purposes
3. Support for any museum maintained and established in the

Town of Monson for historic purposes

4. Support any assertive or aggressive ideas within the Town of Monson to promote the Town;
5. Other examples of what the Trust would consider, but is not limited to these examples -

- a. Development and promotion of tourism
- b. Promotion of the general economy related to: establishing historic sites; renovations to current historical buildings; educational programming to include payment for exhibits, speakers or recreating town meetings;

6. Additional acquisitions
7. Maintenance of any historic property within the Town.

Please submit only one (1) application per individual or organization.

For anyone interested in applying please go to [shepemy@gmail.com](mailto:shepemy@gmail.com) for additional information and an application form. Please submit five (5) copies of your application. All applications must be mailed and received by April 21, 2020 to Makepeace Trust, 4 Carpenter Rd., Monson, MA 01057

## Expungement and record sealing forum draws crowd

HOLYOKE — A forum on record sealing and expungement drew a larger than anticipated crowd to the Holyoke Public Library on Feb. 27. The forum, presented by Hampden District Attorney Anthony D. Gulluni, who was joined by First Assistant District Attorney Eduardo Velazquez, and members of the District Attorney's Community Safety and Outreach team, presented information on expungement, CORI law, and record sealing

to a capacity crowd over 100 people, many of whom work in substance use and recovery counseling and career development.

The District Attorney has done a series of these unique educational events aimed both at folks who may pursue sealing or expungement of their records, as well as those who work in social services who can pass this important information on to their clients and those they serve, a novel form of "training the trainer."

For someone to seal their record, they first must petition the Commissioner of Probation or go to the court clerk's office where their conviction was entered to initiate the process. If the petitioner's effort is within the law's allowances, a hearing will be ultimately held where the petitioner's request will either be granted or not by the court.

Hampden District Attorney Anthony D.

Gulluni stated, "A person's criminal history can be an obstacle to pursuing an education or obtaining gainful employment. Our forum provides education on the state of the law so people who have paid their debt to society can improve themselves and become contributing community members. We are happy to help those who are ready and willing to help themselves."

Criminal offenses that are not eligible: crimes of violence, child sexual abuse, gun or other weapon related offenses, and operating a vehicle under the influence. If there was a victim involved with the crime they mustn't have been elderly, disabled, or a family member.

## The Journal Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

*Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.*

## DEADLINE

*The Journal Register* has changed its firm deadline for public submissions to Mondays. To get your submission in for that week's edition, email Editor at [bcoulter@turley.com](mailto:bcoulter@turley.com) or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.

## Corrections

The Journal Register will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3. To request a correction, send information to Editor at [bcoulter@turley.com](mailto:bcoulter@turley.com), or call 283-8393, extension 236. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069.

## Cash flow relief for small local business

On Sunday, Governor Baker announced new measures for administrative tax relief for small local businesses impacted by COVID-19, especially in the restaurant and hospitality sectors.

For small businesses, defined as those who paid less than \$150,000 in 2019 in sales and meals, or room occupancy taxes, the state will be postponing the payment of their respective sales, meals, or room occupancy taxes.

1. Taxes due for March, April, and May will instead be due on June 20.
2. All penalties and interest that would otherwise apply will be waived.
3. The Department of Revenue is currently drafting emergency regulations to put this relief in place and expects them to be finalized before Friday.

### PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for The Journal Register, please email [dfarmer@turley.com](mailto:dfarmer@turley.com).

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Newsstand: \$1.00 per copy

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# Survival Center operational during virus outbreak

Donations, services scaled back for safety

By Tyler S. Witkop  
Staff Writer

INDIAN ORCHARD – Hunger never takes a vacation, even during a pandemic.

For hundreds of residents locally, the Community Survival Center is a vital resource keeping their families fed each day. As businesses, government and organizations nationwide respond and take drastic measures to keep individuals safe amid the outbreak of the new coronavirus, COVID-19, so have the staff of the Survival Center.

“We’re doing our best,” said Mary Cassidy, executive director of the center that serves the towns of Hampden, Ludlow, Wilbraham and the Springfield neighborhoods of Indian Orchard, Sixteen Acres and Pine Point. “We are taking this one day at a time but obviously, future cuts will have to happen.”

Cassidy said that at present, amid calls for social distancing – keeping six-feet of separation between others – they are limiting the waiting area to three people at a time and five people in either the Thrift Shop or Food Pantry. They have also suspended all volunteers.

In terms of donations, Cassidy said they will only accept donations of food and money.

“Fortunately we still have a lot of wonderful people in the churches and the faith community, and individuals who continue to support us,” she said.

Monetary and food dona-



TIMES PHOTO BY TYLER S. WITKOP

tions account for the bulk of both resources. According to the annual report for fiscal 2019 (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019), total financial contributions amounted to \$287,733. Groups provided \$13,461 and businesses gave \$10,585. The Survival Center’s Thrift Shop, which is open to anyone and helps fund the operation, contributed \$100,600.

In terms of food donations during that time, the Survival Center received 196,226 pounds of food. Of that amount, 87,018 pounds were distributed through the Emergency Food Program. The Survival Center purchased 5,693 pounds to distribute.

Last year, Cassidy said the National Association of Letter Carriers, who collect non-perishable food donations in the mailboxes of communities including Ludlow and Wilbraham around Mother’s Day each year, delivered a record 31,546 pounds of food. With health concerns and closures, she’s

concerned that this year’s drive may not happen.

“People are worried about keeping their own families fed,” she said.

The Survival Center offers several food programs for folks and families in need. The Emergency Food Program offers a four- to five-day supply of necessary food to families within the service area up to six times during the fiscal year (July 1-June 30).

To utilize the service, participants must provide a verification of address with a current piece of postmarked mail for all adults in the household, provide verification of total monthly income that must fall within USDA guidelines, and provide a rent receipt, mortgage statement or property tax bill.

A Preschool Program is available for those utilizing the Emergency Food Program. Participants receive 20 nutritious breakfasts, lunches, snacks and, when available milk and juice. Food comes in the form

of bagged groceries. Families commit to picking up the food once a month until the child is able to attend school full-time. A birth certificate or health insurance card is required to verify each child in the household.

Additionally, the center operates a Senior Program available to any senior citizen in Hampden County. Seniors receive 12 bags weighing 20 to 22 pounds – one for each month of the year – to any and all low-income senior households. To participate, seniors must bring current postmarked mail and verification of household income on their first visit of the fiscal year.

While the calls for social distancing and limitations imposed on gatherings have only been underway a short time, Cassidy said donations have already begun to slow. This, she said, is concerning, as the center had seen an uptick in new faces for months prior to the pandemic.

“We have been seeing an average of 20 new families a month to the Food Pantry,” she said. “Many people who come do work.”

Those visiting the Survival Center to use the Food Pantry will receive four to five days’ worth of food, she said. Last year, due to an increase in food donations, the center was able to give a six day supply of food.

“Most people are OK with that,” Cassidy said. “They understand the need.”

Those who do have donations of food may still bring them to the Survival Center, located at 240 Main St. in Indian Orchard. Cassidy said donors can stay in their vehicle while staff meet them outside to take the donations. Monetary donations can be mailed or made online.

For more information or to donate, call 543-3930 or visit [communitysurvivalcenter.org](http://communitysurvivalcenter.org).

# Local Grants Awarded To Palmer

12 Cultural Activities Supported

PALMER – State Senator Anne Gobi and Nancy Roy, chairperson of the Palmer Cultural Council, have announced the awarding of 12 grants totaling \$9,616, for cultural programs in Palmer.

This year’s grants include: Everyone Shines Music Therapy Program at Sunshine Village with African Dance and Drumming, \$868; Murder in the Priory performance, \$600, Thanksgiving Harvest performance, \$400, and A Musical Journey Through the Years, \$375, all at the Palmer Senior Center; the Just Peace Players, \$500, and a Free for All Open House, \$326, both at the Second Congregational Church; Palmer Public Library Summer Reading Family Performance Series, \$1,600; Stop the Violence – an international poster exhibit at the Palmer Public Library in June, \$160; Attracting Birds, Butterflies and Bees lecture in the spring, \$500; Hip Hop Around the World in conjunction with the Palmer Council on Aging, \$380; Field Trip to Hanover Theater in Worcester for Palmer High Grade 7 students, \$2,040; Juggler and Musical Performance at the Palmer Artisan Festival in May, \$425; and the Palmer Artisan Festival, \$1,442.

The Palmer Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 local cultural councils serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. These councils, including the Palmer Cultural Council, are comprised of volunteers appointed by their municipality. Palmer’s members include Donald Blais, Carol Holden, Sandra Noonan, Nancy Roy, and Donna Tourville.

The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community. “While serving this area, I have seen firsthand the benefits that cultural councils across the state bring towards enriching our communities and improving quality of life for our constituents,” commented Senator Anne Gobi (D-Spencer), Chair of the Joint Committee on Environment and a member of the Senate Ways and Means Committee. “Through these partnerships we are able to bring new value, experiences, and knowledge to our towns, and as we move through this year’s budget process, I look forward to working for improved funding and increased awareness on the positives such organizations bring.”

Statewide, more than \$4.3 million will be distributed by Local Cultural Councils in 2020. Grants will support an enormous range of grass-roots activities in the arts, humanities, and interpretative sciences that provide a public benefit and access to persons with disabilities. Nearly half of LCC funds support educational activities for young people.

Palmer Cultural Council is a local agency funded by Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

If you would like more information about the Palmer Cultural Council, please contact Nancy Roy at 413-896-5838, email: [palmerculturalcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:palmerculturalcouncil@gmail.com)

# Hitchcock Academy scheduling update for the remainder of the month

In accordance with state mandates Hitchcock Academy will be closed through the end of the month. Staff is utilizing this period to thoroughly clean and sanitize the building in anticipation of resuming our regular schedule. We realize the impact this has on everyone but ask for your patience and understanding as we navigate these uncharted waters together.

# Holland announces Community Compact grants

HOLLAND – The town of Holland is pleased to announce it was recently awarded two Community Compact - Best Practices Grants by the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and the Community Compact Cabinet.

The first grant award of \$11,190 will provide funds for the Town of Holland to have all of its general and zoning by-laws reviewed, updated and professionally codified. According to Senator Anne Gobi, “The Town of Holland continually looks for ways to make town government work better for its residents and businesses and these grants are an example

of that. I will continue to support the town and funding for Community Compact grants.”

The second grant award of \$6,450, will provide funds for the Town of Holland to purchase an improved budgeting program. This program will create a more transparent budgeting document that more clearly details all revenues and expenditures, better communicates the town’s financial policies, and will also assist the town improve its long-range financial planning. “I’m thrilled that Holland was able to secure this competitive funding,” said Representative Todd

Smola (First Hampden District). “These grants help ensure that local governments throughout Massachusetts are as effective as possible.”

About the Community Compact Cabinet:

Formed in January 2015, the Community Compact Cabinet is chaired by Lt. Governor Polito and is composed of the secretaries of Housing & Economic Development, Education, Transportation, Energy & Environmental Affairs, and Technology Services and Security, and the Senior Deputy Commissioner of Local Services and the Assistant Secre-

tary of Operational Services. The Community Compact Cabinet elevates the Administration’s partnerships with cities and towns, and allows the Governor’s Office to work more closely with leaders from all municipalities. The Cabinet champions municipal interests across all executive secretariats and agencies, and develops, in consultation with cities and towns, mutual standards and best practices for both the state and municipalities. The creation of Community Compacts creates clear standards, expectations, and accountability for both partners.

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PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS AGAINST INFECTIONS

1



WET HANDS

2



APPLY SOAP

3



RUB HANDS PALM TO PALM

4



LATHER THE BACKS OF YOUR HANDS

5



SCRUB BETWEEN YOUR FINGERS

6



RUB THE BACKS OF FINGERS ON THE OPPOSING PALMS

7



CLEAN THUMBS

8



WASH FINGERNAILS AND FINGERTIPS

9



RINSE HANDS

10



DRY WITH A SINGLE USE TOWEL

11



USE THE TOWEL TO TURN OFF THE FAUCET

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# Viewpoints

## OUR VIEW

### Coronavirus is a real threat

Americans don't like being told what to do, and the government's been doing an awful lot of telling lately.

Don't eat out. Don't send your kids to school. Don't have a party. Don't watch a parade.

The past week has seen a massive upheaval in almost every aspect of almost every American's life — home, work, recreation. None of it has been welcome. But — to repeat the phrase we all hated when we heard it as children from our parents, our doctors and our teachers — it's for our own good. The point is to protect us from the coronavirus.

The coronavirus that quarantined an entire metropolis in China.

The coronavirus that shut down essentially the whole country of Italy.

The coronavirus is not a possibility or a far-off fear. It's a real thing that has been killing thousands of people around the world. It's here now, and the only way we can stop it is to keep it from jumping from person to person. And the only way to do that is to keep people away from people.

A little skepticism about the claims made by politicians is a healthy thing, especially when they're trying to justify restrictions on freedom of movement and commerce. But this isn't a good time to take a chance on the experts being wrong. Everyone in a position of power is saying the same thing — the coronavirus is a real threat. Federal, state and local officials. Doctors and public health agencies. Business leaders. Politicians from both major parties.

That the American death toll hasn't yet reached the crisis levels of Italy or China is not a testament to some inherent superiority or hardness of the American public. It's merely a function of the fact that the coronavirus infected those countries earlier. Public health officials aren't responding to actual deaths on our shores. They're looking at how the disease has spread in other countries, and trying to stop it from spreading that way here.

What can you do?

\* Practice good hygiene — wash hands frequently, cough into your sleeve rather than hand, disinfect frequently touched surfaces and items in the home.

\* Stay home. Work from home, learn from home, eat at home. Shop online and have items delivered. Read books and watch television rather than going out for entertainment. Don't host or attend parties.

\* Limit contact between elderly people and young people. Senior citizens are especially susceptible to Covid-19, and children can carry the virus without showing any symptoms.

\* If you begin to experience a fever or flu-like symptoms, call your doctor.

Unfortunately, by the time symptoms appear, the patient has already been carrying — and spreading — the disease for as long as two weeks. Any of us could be infected right now and not realize it, so it's important that all of us work to halt its spread, whether we "feel sick" or not.

The government is forcing some of these choices on us. Schools, senior centers and increasingly town halls are closed. Public gatherings of large numbers of people have been banned. Restaurants are closed for all but take-out and delivery.

Some of these lifestyle changes are easy. Some are difficult. Some may even be annoying or burdensome.

But every one of them is better than getting infected. And every one of them is better than getting your grandparents, your parents, or your elderly neighbors infected, too.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to [elinscott@turley.com](mailto:elinscott@turley.com).



## Compost in the making

We have all been spending a lot of time at home, and for good reason. It feels great to get caught up on all of the tasks around the house that have been put on the back burner. One of those jobs that I've been dreading is cleaning out the chicken coop. But alas, this past Saturday my oldest daughter and I got the job done. When faced with the challenge of what to do with the spent hay we had the perfect solution: start a compost pile!

It's easier than you might think to make your own compost. Most of us have an adequate amount of kitchen scraps and yard waste on hand to generate enough for a small garden. There are numerous books on the subject that go into amazing detail on what to include and what not to include in your compost pile. Simply speaking, your goal is to combine nitrogen-rich ingredients and carbon-rich ingredients together so that they decompose to form compost.

Think of yard waste and garden debris in terms of "green" for nitrogen and "brown" for carbon. Grass clippings, kitchen waste and freshly fallen leaves and weed plants (none with seeds, please) are considered green, whereas pine needles, dried corn stalks and dried leaves are in the brown category. Make alternating layers of these ingredients to form a pile at least three feet tall by three feet wide. Add a shovel full of finished compost or garden soil to the pile every now and then to inoculate it with beneficial bacteria and fungi.

Once you have completed the layering process you can either let it sit a year until next spring, called "lazy man's compost," or tend to it on a regular basis and end up with the finished product in a couple of months or less. This will involve watching the pile's temperature and turning it when temperatures drop so that it heats up again and again until

decomposition is complete. At this stage, it should be dark in color and crumbly in texture and have an earthy, inoffensive odor.

An annual addition of compost does wonders for the garden. Not only are you increasing its fertility, you are improving its structure. If your soil is on the sandy side, compost works to bind aggregates together to hold more moisture. Amazingly enough, it has the opposite effect on soils with a high clay content; they are better able to drain thanks to compost. There is even some evidence that plant diseases are reduced by its integration into the soil.

Most experts agree that for an established garden, one-half to one inch of compost spread

on the surface and mixed into the top few inches of soil, is all that is necessary to maintain status quo. I've had good luck incorporating a shovel full of compost, a sprinkling of lime and balanced organic fertilizer into the planting hole for most vegetable transplants. Generally they require no additional fertilizers for the remainder of the growing season. For vegetables sown in place in the garden, just mix those same ingredients into the top couple of inches of soil prior to planting your seeds. Even perennial borders and shrub beds benefit from an application of compost. If you don't have the time to scratch it into the soil, simply apply it to the surface around your plants and let the earthworms do the work for you!

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

### IN THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid  
Columnist

## Letters to the Editor

### I'm terrified

To the editor:

I'm terrified. We're facing a crisis which is devastating people's lives as people can't work and businesses close which our president was totally unprepared for. He's gutted all the agencies that deal with these things. He's trying to play catch up now by throwing trillions at our banks and airlines. Fortunately he's planning to give people money, stop evictions and commandeer factories to make things like ventilators. But is it too little too late? And we're facing a deadly climate crisis which he's scoffed at like he did the COVID 19 since December. Will he be panicking, scrambling around again, unprepared, when it's so obvious even he can't deny it?

And the DNC has been absolutely disgusting. They've pushed Biden, who time again proves to be showing his age in the cognitive department, embarrassing himself on the campaign trail. He has a horrendous track record of pandering to corporate interests such as the crime bill which has turned us into a private prison state; NAFTA; rallied with Bush for the Iraq war; destroyed personal bankruptcy but not for businesses like Trump's casinos. He's going to deal with these crises? Trump will eat him alive.

I put so much hope in Bernie and his wonderful sweeping programs like a Green New Deal and Medicare for All which we need so badly and his taking only personal donations and none from corporations. But Bernie pooped out, barely debated Biden, has let the media crucify him, and has been silent on DNC rigging such as long lines, obviously rigged voting machines and scanners (shown when exit polls contradict results by huge margins) while he spouts the DNC nonsense about Russian meddling invented to cover up the 2016 DNC rigging. He was silent when supporters went to court twice for him and winning the case against Hillary's campaign which took 300,000 names off voter rolls in NY. Without fair elections we have no democracy. Speak up Bernie!

I see little hope for the future. A deteriorating old man vs. an erratic climate denier. I'm glad I'm old and don't have kids.

Yours truly,  
Charlotte Burns, Palmer

## BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for The Journal Register, please email [dfarmer@turley.com](mailto:dfarmer@turley.com).

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## Election letters to the editor welcome

The Journal Register welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Journal Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to [dfarmer@turley.com](mailto:dfarmer@turley.com). Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call editor Douglas Farmer at 413-283-8393.

### Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact Lisa Marulli, 413-283-8393 or [lmarrulli@turley.com](mailto:lmarrulli@turley.com), about paid advertising in The Journal Register.

## Letters to the editor policy

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must confirm authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

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The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

## Can marinating chicken nuggets help with a hot topic?

"What? How can marinating chicken nuggets relate to today's hot topics?" Breathe. Hug your mug. Relax.

Let's prep some "food for thought" which means anything giving us something to think about-- to figuratively digest—for our brains to process. As our brains marinate and steep these thoughts, this process enriches these morsels into internal truths with external value.

"Really?" Yes, "food for thought" is a processing method that we do every day without even realizing it.

Hmm. Could rural roots help grow "food for thought?" Could small-farm life experiences bring nurturing applications to exactly where millions of families find themselves now?

Could farmland's domestic hens hatch tidbits of truth? Could farm-life lessons from inside a hen's pen, help with today's medically-mandated isolation and incubation situations? Yes.

Often, when digging deep into rural roots, simple, well-grounded, life-applications are discovered, observed, and learned. As nature's instincts occur, basic life-producing and

life-sustaining evidences happen

Nestled in New England, two small farmlands, both with hard-working, bi-vocational families of two different national origins, were separated only by a stonewall. Each family lived off what they raised. Each shared their abundance. One farm raised hundreds of White Rock chickens, eggs, fruit trees, and acres of vegetable gardens. The other farm raised a family Jersey cow, cattle, pigs and vegetables for canning. A barnyard mix of Rhode Island Red hens,(with an ornery rooster,) ducks, and a nanny goat were often corralled by a black Labrador Retriever.

How can chicken nuggets be relevant to today's COVID-19 pandemic?

Chicken nugget #1: On the neighboring farm, hundreds of White Rock hen's fertilized eggs were hen-house safe under a warm, encased, protected brooder, with warm lights on during incubation for 21 days. Incubation develops growth and maturity both internally and externally.

Food for thought: Being incubated at home can be a time of relational nurturing, personal growth, and educational development. Incubation with students, spouses, and with seniors can bring intergenerational times of caring, sharing and safe keeping.

Chicken nugget #2: On our small farm, one half-dozen Rhode Island Red setting hens found isolated places for nesting over their eggs. Brooding hens only leave their nest to eat once a day. They stayed in place. Only moving occasionally, covering their eggs to ensure constant warmth. Food for thought: When healthy isolation is protective, with a specific purpose and focus-- it can yield dozens of eggs-cellent benefits.

Chicken nugget #3- Laying hens, of all breeds, produce white or brown shelled eggs. Although the exterior has different colors, the inside is the same: the egg yolks and egg-whites contain valuable protein and nutrients. Chicken meat is dark and white. Chicken nuggets are shaped pieces of ground, blended, high-pro-

tein, nutritious meat. Food for thought: Human exteriors may be distinctively different. Basic human interiors are similar.

Certainly the COVID-19 virus gives cause for great concern and cautions. Homes, educations, careers, businesses, hobbies, sports, lifetime celebrations and events, sports, have all been temporarily put in incubation for life-saving reasons. During these times of this protective isolation, home-schooling and many levels of online education are nationwide. Working from home is helping families stay safe and virus free.

Every day, front-line heroes are protecting, serving, and keeping safety a priority wherever we live, worship, work, and study. These heroes are behind-the-scenes, on-the-roads, and working at counters and cash registers, helping keep food, medicines, and health care needs available.

Yes, nationally and globally, COVID-19 is a simmering hot topic. Hopefully, marinating and serving this working, small-farm view passed your chicken nuggets taste test?

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## The Journal Register

The Journal Register (USPS 418-940) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Journal Register, 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.

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# Viewpoints

## A Parasitic Tale

By Javier Puente  
Smith College

In 1978, prominent historian William H. McNeill first offered a pathbreaking view of the past, present, and future of society. Our trajectories as tribes, villages, cities, empires, and nation-states have been, and continue to be, deeply intertwined with the parasites that find sustenance and thrive inside our bodies. No account of our past, no evaluation of our present, and no forecast of the future would be complete without weighing the role bacteria, viruses, and other microscopic organisms have played in shaping, constraining, limiting, and sometimes radically challenging our fate. The arrival of Europeans in the Americas and the colonization of the hemisphere is one of the most well-known examples. Within a few decades, a still economically and socially precarious group of European societies came to successfully conquer a continent and, subsequently, reemerged as superpowers competing over global domination. In the process, however, tens of millions of indigenous peoples throughout the Americas faced demographic obliteration – some as the result of violence, most as the result of European diseases that used the bodies of conquistadors as their vectors.

Smallpox and other infections framed a global geopolitical order that lasted almost four centuries. Such an order centered Europe, first, and the United States, later on, as epicenters of unseen dynamics of mobility and circulation. Inside galleons and other vessels, white merchants brought African peoples as slaves to the Americas, carried Caribbean sugar back to Europe and Andean and Mexican silver to China, made substantial profits at the expense of misery and suffering, and ultimately contoured the profile of modern capitalism. Predation and pillage lied at the core of this newly minted economic system. Human trafficking, biodiversity degradation, pollution and contamination became the correlates of widely celebrated discourses and narratives of political and material progress. In the meantime, African mosquitoes transported along with enslaved African peoples brought *Genus Flavivirus* and *Plasmodium malariae*, yellow fever and malaria, transforming a space of profit into a realm of disease. When Americans, Haitians, Cubans, and others launched their revolutions against European domination, both yellow fever and malaria played a critical role decimating imperial armies and leaving immune revolutionary troops nearly untouched.

Viruses and parasites, once again, set the global geopolitical scene in the dawn of the twentieth century, aiding the rise of nation-states throughout the American hemisphere. Economically decaying imperial powers entered the Great War in 1914 and brought nearly the entire world to contact through conflict dynamics. As devastating as the war was, producing approximately 40M casualties, the worst happened when dispatched peoples returned home. An H1N1 influenza virus, sometimes wrongfully called Spanish influenza, traveled throughout the world with returning troops and infected 500M people – a third of the world population at the time – killing 10% of them. The working-class youth were the primary victims of this virus, being exposed to unsanitary conditions in the midst of postwar economic contractions. The greatest pandemic in recent history transformed the world in years and decades to come, showing the vulnerability of all peoples to diseases regardless of their economic condition, shrinking the global economically active population, leaving hundreds of thousands of orphans behind, and perhaps setting the conditions for the 1920s baby boom and the Great Depression. Throughout the rest of the century, other pandemics threatened society, often locally but sometimes triggering global concern: the 1957 H2N2 pandemic, the 1968 flu pandemic, the 1997-1999 avian flu, the 2003 SARS pandemic, and the 2009 swine flu pandemic, to name a few. The periodic return of pandemics nourishes from geopolitical orders and institutional frameworks that propel circulations, promote exposures, enhance vulnerabilities, and increase mortality. Eventually, these pandemics also set the course for the demise of those orders and frameworks.

Some observers have claimed, over the past few months, weeks, and days, that we are facing and unprecedented health crisis in our history. The previous lines suggest otherwise. The rise and spread of COVID-19, the infamous coronavirus, is just another episode in our parasitic history. While the immediate emergency is sanitary, the larger crisis is economic, political, social, and cultural. COVID-19 emerges and feeds from an economic system that naturalizes inequalities, a political order that enforces borderlines, a social organization that celebrates individualism, and a cultural lifestyle that worships growth and consumption. All these began to materialize hundreds of years, all feel today unquestionably expired. Isolation and social distancing as solidarity practices are saving the many but they are also revealing the most grotesque aspects of nation-states and capitalism. Empires subdued to disease – sooner or later so will nation-states, so will capitalism.

Javier Puente is Assistant Professor of Latin American and Latino/a Studies at Smith College.

## People urged to donate blood amid coronavirus concerns

REGION – The American Red Cross strongly urges healthy, eligible individuals who are feeling well to give blood or platelets to help maintain a sufficient blood supply and prevent shortages as concerns about the outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019, or COVID-19, rise in the U.S.

Cold and flu season has already impacted the nation’s ability to maintain its blood supply. As the number of coronavirus cases grows in the U.S., the number of people eligible to give blood for patients in need could decrease further.

Please make an appointment to donate blood now by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device. Blood donors with type O blood and all platelet donors are especially needed right now.

Donating blood is a safe process

and people should not hesitate to give or receive blood. There are no data or evidence that this coronavirus can be transmissible by blood transfusion, and there have been no reported cases worldwide of transmissions for any respiratory virus, including this coronavirus, from a transfusion. Nonetheless, the Red Cross has implemented new blood donation deferrals out of an abundance of caution. Individuals are asked to postpone their donation for 28 days following: Travel to China and its special administrative regions, Hong Kong and Macau, as well as Iran, Italy and South Korea; diagnosis of COVID-19, contact with a person who has or is suspected to have the virus.

As the situation evolves, the Red Cross will continue to evaluate all emerging risks in collaboration with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and industry partners to determine if additional intervention strategies are

needed. Together, they stand ready to keep the American public informed and prepared.

### Blood donation process

The Red Cross only collects blood from individuals who are healthy and feeling well at the time of donation – and who meet other eligibility requirements, available at RedCrossBlood.org.

At each blood drive and donation center, Red Cross employees follow thorough safety protocols including wearing gloves, routinely wiping down donor-touched areas, using sterile collection sets for every donation, and preparing the arm for donation with an aseptic scrub. These mitigation measures will help ensure blood recipient safety, as well as staff and donor safety in reducing contact with those who may potentially have this respiratory infection.

A blood donation takes about an hour from start to finish, but the actual donation itself only takes about 8-10

minutes. Donors can also save up to 15 minutes at the blood drive by completing a RapidPass. With RapidPass®, donors complete the pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of donation, from a mobile device or computer. To complete a RapidPass, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

To donate blood, individuals need to bring a blood donor card or driver’s license or two other forms of identification that are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also must meet certain height and weight requirements.

## DCR announces 2020 Arbor Day Poster Contest for students

BOSTON — Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner Jim Montgomery last week announced the theme of the agency’s 2020 fifth-grade Arbor Day Poster Contest: “Trees Please.” Fifth graders from around the state enrolled in both public and private schools, as well as home-schooled students, are encouraged to participate in the annual Arbor Day Poster Contest by creating posters highlighting this year’s theme. Schools are then asked to host a poster contest to determine the winner. The winning poster from each school can then be submitted to the agency for review. Home schooled or non-participating school students may submit their posters and enter the contest individually.

“Trees are not only beautiful, but play a key role in the health of our environment, and I’m thrilled that each year fifth graders demonstrate this importance by participating in the Department of Conservation and Recreation’s annual Arbor Day Poster Contest,” said DCR Commissioner Jim Montgomery. “I look forward to 2020’s creative entries from students throughout the Commonwealth highlighting this year’s theme ‘Trees Please’.”

First place prizes for the DCR Arbor Day Poster Contest include a tree planting ceremony at the winner’s school, a certificate for art and science supplies, and more. Second Place, Third Place, and Honorable Mention winners

will also receive art and science supplies.

“The Arbor Day Poster Contest is a good chance for students to creatively express what they’ve learned,” said Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley. “I hope that many of our fifth grade artists, scientists, activists, and arborists take the challenge.”

Trees offer many benefits to people and to the environment, including the reduction in energy use for heating and cooling; the cleansing of both water and air; the reduction of noise pollution; the beautification of communities; and providing of habitats for wildlife.

This year’s theme, “Trees Please” is designed to highlight the importance

of trees within Massachusetts’s communities and diverse landscapes throughout the state. Additionally, the Arbor Day Poster Contest combines both art and science in an effort to instill the vital role trees have on the public’s daily lives. The DCR Urban and Community Forestry Program, with support from the U.S. Forest Service, sponsors the annual contest for fifth graders across the Commonwealth.

Posters must be submitted by March 15, and the contest is open to all students currently enrolled in the fifth grade. An Arbor Day Poster Contest Guide is available on the DCR website or can be obtained by contacting Mollie Freilicher, 413-577-2966 or molлие.freilicher@mass.gov.

### SHERIFF | from page 1

which will temporarily stop bringing passengers to the correctional facilities.

Work release employees and community service crews assigned to do restitution will discontinue their work until further notice.

Health services will screen and must approve every request for a transfer from other facilities and the department will not accept a transfer unless the subject has already been in custody for at least 14 days and is shown to be symptom-free.

Non-essential staff have been excused from reporting to work. Meal services for inmates will continue as normal and all medical services will continue with additional attention paid to the transmission of infectious diseases throughout the department’s facilities, according to the department.

### SKOWYRA | from page 1

of program and events was creating, launching and leading the “Worcester Women’s Leadership Conference,” which is approaching its 11th year and attracts more than 800 attendees who are offered opportunities for business networking, professional development and personal growth.

Aside from her new position, she also said that she writes Celebrant Services for the Beers and Story Funeral Home in Palmer and leads the volunteer organization Rebuilding Together Worcester.

As the executive director, Skow-

The Western Mass. County Correctional Officer’s Basic Training Academy has also been closed until further notice. Academy recruits will be screened by health services and will be assigned to work in the facilities to assist staff once cleared.

Courts across the state have been temporarily closed since March 16. The department has since been working to increase its capacity for video conferencing.

The Hampden County Sheriff’s Department serves the communities of Agawam, Blandford, Brimfield, Chester, Chicopee, East Longmeadow, Granville, Hampden, Holland, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Palmer, Russel, Southwick, Springfield, Tolland, Wales, West Springfield, Westfield and Wilbraham.

yra’s responsibilities include overseeing the academy’s budget, fundraising efforts, putting together creative events, and working closely with her staff. “We’re really looking to bring more activity happening here on site,” said Skowyra. She said that this also includes getting out there and being in the community and reminding residents that they are here, while also finding out what they would like to see at the academy.

To learn more about the academy, located on 2 Brookfield Rd., visit <https://www.hitchcockacademy.org/>.

### COVID | from page 1

mitting the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education upon recommendation of the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education to modify or waive the required competency determination for high school graduation. The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education would also be allowed to modify or waive the MCAS testing requirement.

Extending a Student Opportunity Act deadline by permitting the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education to extend the April 1, 2020 deadline for each district to submit its

first 3-year plan to address “persistent disparities in achievement among student subgroups.”

Permitting electronic signatures for search warrants and criminal complaints. Allowing electronic signatures in these situations would result in less traffic in courthouses and reduce in-person encounters, while still allowing the criminal process to continue.

Extending the dates by which the MBTA must approve a preliminary budget and submit a final budget to better align with the Commonwealth’s budget process.

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### CLUES ACROSS

- As soon as possible
- Gateway (Arabic)
- Doctors' group
- Madder genus of plants
- A team's best pitcher
- Ancient Greek sophist
- Go up
- Neither
- Bolivian river
- Manila hemp
- Comedienne Gasterayer
- British School
- Human reproductive organs
- Surrenders
- Dog with long, silky coat and drooping ears
- Sun up in New York
- Lead alloy
- Eastern Asian plant

- Rapid deployment force (abbr.)
- Japanese warrior
- Festivity
- Interruptions
- Nonsense (slang)
- Data mining methodology (abbr.)
- Calvary sword
- French river
- Global business conference (abbr.)
- Afflicted
- Con man's game
- No (Scottish)
- Jewish spiritual leader
- Fish
- Camera term (abbr.)
- Impudence
- Dark brown or black

### CLUES DOWN

- A continuous portion of a circle

- Genus of seabirds
- Infant's dining accessory
- Native Americans from Arizona
- Popular fruit
- Poisonous plant
- Scolded
- Assists
- Hand (Spanish)
- Amazon product identifying system (abbr.)
- Basics
- Cain and \_\_\_
- Malaria
- Indicates particular shape
- Respiratory disease
- Central Standard Time
- Imitate
- Golf score
- A place to lay your head
- Three cards of the same suit
- Not in
- Human gene
- Ancient Chinese philosophic concept
- French river
- Thinks up
- Type of geological deposit
- Helps little firms
- Area units
- A device to remove
- Secret political clique
- Polite interruption sound
- Foundation
- Clare Boothe \_\_\_, American writer
- Swiss river
- Prejudice
- Actor Idris
- Resistance fighters
- Speak disrespectfully of

## Sparky the Fire Dog celebrates 69 years

Everybody’s favorite fire safety dog, Sparky the Fire Dog, celebrates his 69th birthday recently. In recognition of Sparky’s big day, the National Fire Protection Association is reminding the public that fire continues to present real risks and must be taken seriously: A structure fire occurs in the U.S. every 24 seconds, resulting in an annual average of 493,797 fires, 2,844 deaths, 12,812 injuries, and \$10.5 billion in direct property damage.

“Sparky is an emblem of fire safety for kids and adults alike, and his messages are just as relevant today as they were nearly 70 years ago,” said Lorraine Carli, vice president of outreach and advocacy for NFPA.

According to Carli, today’s homes burn faster than ever, mak-

ing home fire safety messages all the more critical. “While the number of home fires have declined significantly over the past four decades, the risk of dying in a fire remains about the same, which means we still have a lot more work to do to make the public safer from fire.”

Created by NFPA in 1951, Sparky has served as the association’s official mascot for nearly seven decades, helping fire professionals, teachers, civic organizations, corporations, and the media deliver invaluable fire and life safety educational insights to people of all ages. With dogged determination, Sparky has elevated awareness around the places people are at greatest risk to fire, while promoting basic but essential prevention messages.

As Sparky blows out the battery-operated candles on his 69th birthday cake, consider some of his key fire safety messages: Install smoke alarms on every level of the home, in each bedroom, and near all sleeping areas. Test smoke alarms once a month using the test button. Make a home escape plan with all members of your household. Draw a map of the home, marking all doors and windows with a path from each exit to the outside, and choose a meeting place outside where everyone will meet upon exiting.

Practice your escape plan regularly – at least twice a year - with all members of your household. Sparky’s website offers a wealth of age-appropriate games, videos, apps, and other activities that make learning about fire safe-

ty easy and fun. Visit Sparky’s Facebook page for additional fire safety information, resources and messages, many of which can be easily downloaded and shared.

Founded in 1896, NFPA is a global self-funded nonprofit organization devoted to eliminating death, injury, property and economic loss due to fire, electrical and related hazards. The association delivers information and knowledge through more than 300 consensus codes and standards, research, training, education, outreach and advocacy; and by partnering with others who share an interest in furthering the NFPA mission. For more information, visit [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org).

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## GIRLS BASKETBALL

### Mustangs participate in final game of season with empty arena



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

The Monson High School girls basketball team would end up playing in the final game of the high school season after coronavirus concerns halted the state basketball and hockey tournaments.

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

WORCESTER — Being a school bus driver does have its perks sometimes.

Jack Berry has driven the Monson girls basketball team to almost all of their road games during the past two and a half years.

In March of 2018, Berry drove the Monson players and coaching staff to Blake Arena located on the Springfield College campus. On that day, the Lady Mustangs, who had defeated Putnam in the Division 4 Western Mass. finals, lost to Eastern Mass. champion Coyle & Cassidy in the Division 4 state championship game. It marked the first time that a basketball team from Monson High School had ever advanced to the state finals.

Four of the Monson players from the 2018 Western Mass. championship team were also key members of this year's squad. They are seniors Mia Krupczak, Alivia Skowrya, and Kelsey Duggan,

along with junior Sydnie Devries.

On March 7, the Lady Mustangs captured the Western Mass. Division 4 title for the second time in school history by defeating Lennox, 71-52, at the historic Curry Hicks Cage located on the UMass Amherst campus.

Despite the 19-point victory it was the final time this winter that the faithful supporters of the Monson girls' basketball team had the opportunity to watch a game in person.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, Monson's Division 4 state semifinal game against Central Mass. champion Maynard was played at Worcester State University's John P. Brissette Competition Court without any fans in the stands. The Lady Mustangs outstanding season came to an end following a 57-41 loss to the Lady Tigers on March 12.

Berry drove the Lady Mustangs to the Worcester State campus located on Chandler Street in Worcester. He was allowed to



watch the game from behind the Monson bench.

"I really enjoyed watching the girl's play this year and it's a privilege for me to be able to attend tonight's game," said Berry, who lives in Monson. "I've been driving the girls' basketball team to their road games for more than two years now. It's just a great group of

kids. I was even invited to a couple of player's graduation parties last year."

Besides Berry, the only other people associated with Monson High School, who were allowed into the beautiful new Worcester State gymnasium to watch the state

MUSTANGS | page 2

## GIRLS BASKETBALL



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Alivia Skowrya was a member of the Monson girls team that reached the Western Mass. semifinals.

### Lusitano Club honors soccer all-stars



Logan Gerry, a 1,000-point scorer in basketball, was a first-teamer in soccer.

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The 31<sup>st</sup> annual Lusitano Alumni & Fans (LAF) All-Star High School Soccer Player Awards Night was held at the Gremio Lusitano Club in Ludlow on March 8.

The guest speaker was John Gibson, who has been the women's soccer coach for the past 20 years. Gibson, a native of London, En-

gland, earned his 200<sup>th</sup> career victory at Springfield College in the fall of 2015.

One high school soccer player from each of the divisions was selected by the head coaches as the 2019 Player of the Year.

The Division 3 boys Player of the Year is Simba Pelletier from Pope Francis High School.

The Division 3 girls Player of the Year is Juliana Dickinson from

LUSITANO | page 2

## MIAA

### Spring sports postponed to April 27

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

Following the first postponement of spring sports, the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association made a subsequent vote to further delay the start of the spring sports to April 27.

The original start date of spring sports was March 16. It was delayed to March 30 when many schools began cancelling classes for two weeks due to the coronavirus outbreak.

The MIAA's Board of Directors were scheduled to meet again by teleconference this week to continue to monitor the situation. However, the March 20 teleconference revealed some decisions that became necessary by the continued postponement of spring sports.

The MIAA has agreed to only hold a postseason tournament is spring sports begins on April 27. If the MIAA has to make another postponement, then the tournaments in all spring sports will be cancelled and high schools will only play a modified schedule.

MIAA | page 10

## SENIOR SOFTBALL

### Senior softball league seeks to start season on time

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

While many are hunkering down trying to wait out the coronavirus pandemic that was crippled regular life, and especially the sports world with no competitions of any kind due to the edict from state and federal officials barring gatherings of 25 people or more.

But the Western Mass. Relics, a softball league for senior citizens, is still planning to hold its season-opening jamboree on April 25.

Steve Lepow, the public relations director for the league, says the league has begun booking its field for play, and the Ludlow-based league, which draws players from all over the region and into Connecticut, claims the field will be available come the start of the season.

"We lease the softball field from Fish and Game and we met the owner and posed the question about having to delay the start of the season," Lepow said. "He assured us the softball field will be available to us even if the bar is closed because of the coronavirus."

The season starts on April 25 with a jamboree of modified games with the regular season be-



Submitted photos

The Western Mass. Relics, a senior softball league, play during last season. The softball league is still planning to begin play on April 25 amid coronavirus concerns.

ginning on April 27.

"Full games are supposed to happen on April 27," said Lepow. "We play seven inning games with two divisions. The silver division is for 50 to 65-year-olds and the gold division is for ages 65 and older. Our oldest player is 89-years-old."

The purpose of the league is to have fun and build friendships.

Lepow said regardless of where the pandemic stands, the league does plan to forego typical hand-shaking lines post game.

"We will eliminate hand-

shaking lines after the game and fist bumps," said Lepow. "We have safety rules to prevent contact such as two first base bags (orange) for the runner and white for the fielder. We also have a screen for the pitchers circle to protect the pitcher."

Lepow says player safety will be a top concern.

"Safety is our number one concern," said Lepow. In addition to the things to the hand-shaking, we are asking any player who is sick not to come. We are also pro-

SOFTBALL | page 10



Prescott Watson represented the boys soccer team at the LAF awards.



Tennessee Murphy received what will hopefully be the first of several LAF first team awards.

## Thompson Speedway reschedules events, Icebreaker moved to May

THOMPSON, Conn. – After conversations with all stakeholders, Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park announced on Tuesday the new date for the 46th annual Liquid Death Icebreaker weekend. The prestigious event is now tentatively set to take place May 15 and 16, including the headlining NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Death To Plastic 150.

Due to the current COVID-19 outbreak, the date is tentative, as the situation is fluid and changes are occurring across the motorsports industry daily. A full schedule for the event will be released once available.

The original date for the Liquid Death Icebreaker, April 3 to 5, was postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak, but Thompson Speedway officials were committed to finding the right date and releasing it to the public as quickly as possible.

“After working with all of the different parties involved, we feel this is the best weekend to run the Icebreak-

er and kick-off the Thompson racing season,” Terry Eames, the General Manager of Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, said. “Just like the entire racing community, we are disappointed that we can’t start the race season as originally scheduled. However, we will continue to abide by our Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont’s Executive Orders and CDC suggestions during this time. We fully expect to begin the season with the Icebreaker, May 15-16, and look forward to seeing everyone back at the track soon.”

The health of our valued race teams, fans, staff and customers is paramount during the COVID-19 outbreak. We have cleaned the property thoroughly to do our part to stop the spread of the virus and will continue to do so in the future.

For more information on Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, visit [thompson-speedway.com](http://thompson-speedway.com) and follow the track on social media.

## Sign-ups ongoing for Quabbin League

REGION – The Quabbin Valley Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for 2020 season. The league has six teams, several with open roster spots. Last year, the league voted to allow players age 28 and 29 to be able to join the league, though players under 30 are not eligible to pitch. The cost of the league this season is \$192. For players new to the league, there will be a workout held in early April prior to the league’s annual draft. Players will

have an opportunity to showcase their skills before being selected to a team for the season. The season is 15 regular season games plus at least one playoff game. Games are nine innings and metal (BBCOR -3) or wood bats are allowed. Fields locations are throughout Western Mass. For more information on the league, or if you are interested in registering, go to <https://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org/>. The league is also in Facebook.

## Valley Wheel Baseball looking for new players

REGION – The Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for the upcoming 2020 season, which is set to begin near the end of April. The league is seeking players ages 28 and up. Players turning 28 this year are eligible. However, only players 30 and older can pitch. The league plays 15 regular season games with games being held mostly on Sundays with a couple of weekday games thrown in the mix as well as a special Mother’s Day Saturday game in early May. The league

is built on comradery, fair play, and having a good time with friends. If interested in trying out, go to [www.valleywheelbaseball.com](http://www.valleywheelbaseball.com). The rules of the league and new player forms can be found on the site. For further information, you can contact the league’s commissioner, Jim Nason at [wheel12@comcast.net](mailto:wheel12@comcast.net) or call him at (413) 433-4308. Tryouts will be taking place in the early weeks of April, weather permitting, with a draft following the tryouts.

### MUSTANGS | from page 9

semifinal game, were Principle William Metzger, Assistant Principle Jill Foulis, and Athletic Director Leah Zippin.

“I’m thrilled that the three of us were able to represent the high school at tonight’s game,” Metzger said. “I’m very sympathetic particularly to our seniors because this is their final high school basketball game. I really wish that the player’s parents and our other fans could also be here to watch the team play.”

As it turned out, the Lady Mustangs played in the final girls high school basketball game of the 2019-20 season. The state finals, which were scheduled to be held at the DCU Center in Worcester on March 14 was canceled by the MIAA Board of

Directors due to the coronavirus pandemic.

“The past 48 hours have been very interesting and we’ve been getting new information about the virus almost hourly,” Metzger added. “I know that the parents and our fans are upset about not being here, but it’s just an unfortunate situation. All of the girls have played their hearts out this season and it has been a lot of fun watching them play. It has been an exceptional season.”

The state semifinal game was originally scheduled to be played the previous day. However, because of the Worcester State policy, the MIAA decided to postpone the game for a day and tried to find a different location, which would’ve allowed the fans of both

teams the opportunity to attend. The MIAA thought they had an agreement with American International College in Springfield, but their policy regarding public gathering also changed. They also looked at high school sites and were also told no. That’s how they wound up back at Worcester State without any fans allowed in the gym.

“We weren’t allowed to have any fans at tonight’s games because of the Worcester State University policy regarding public gatherings. We’re very thankful to the people at Worcester State for giving us the opportunity to play our games in their gym,” said MIAA Associate Director Peter Smith. “We did explore as many options as we could. We

thought that we had an agreement with AIC yesterday, but their policy changed during the course of the day. We’re just trying to do the best that we can under the circumstances. We’ve never dealt with a situation like this one before.”

Maynard and Cathedral (Boston) were declared Division 4 co-state champions.

If the Monson girls basketball is able to make a return trip to the Division 4 state semifinals next March, the returning Lady Mustangs players would probably like the gym to be packed with their supporters.

It was a bittersweet ending to their 2019-20 campaign.

### MIAA | from page 9

Additionally, there will not be any exceptions made to Rule 34, which dictates how many contests a team can have in a given week.

Depending on the sport, the number of competitions in a week can range from two to four. It modifies in the events makeups are held, such as in the case of baseball or softball.

The board also voted unanimously to waive the 10-practice rule before competition can happen. The board voted to make it seven calendars from the start of practices.

The maximum number of competitions was also modified to 12 for most sports for tournament participation.

A team must have at least eight contests for postseason participation.

A typical baseball or softball schedule is normally 18 to 20 games, while lacrosse and volleyball compete in 16 to 18 contests.

According to the board of directors, there is a movement to try and keep student-athletes from missing their senior season, especially after the state tournament was interrupted for basketball and hockey.

“Based on the charge from the BOD to have a spring sport season start date of April 27,” the board minutes state. “Discussion regarding a timeline for post-season play took place. The Tournament Management Committee

is committed to allow for broad participation at all levels this spring. Keeping student-athletes connected, involved and engaged has meaning and purpose after the challenges that were faced at the end of the winter season and spring sports in general.”

School districts across the state have been ordered closed through April 7. That order was made by Gov. Charlie Baker. Baker has not made a decision or set a deadline to revisit that closure and whether or not to extend it.

The MIAA has posted a fluid document on its website answering questions about the current situation. The document is considered fluid and is updated when new developments occur.

The MIAA has specifically stated that no sports can be practiced or played prior to April 27. Additionally, coaches unable to interact with their players before that date.

The MIAA plans to provide guidance on health and safety guidelines for spring sports if there are still concerns about the coronavirus when schools resume competition.

The board was scheduled to meet Tuesday morning with an update to be published after that meeting.

Young completed her outstanding high school soccer career with more than 100 career points (Goals & Assists). She was also a member of the Lady Rams varsity basketball team and became the school’s all-time leading scorer in the final game of the regular season.

“I love both sports equally,” Young said. “I’ve been playing soccer and basketball since I was very little. I thought about playing soccer in college, but basketball was my first choice. If the two seasons were a little bit farther apart, I would probably play both sports in college.”

Young will only be playing college basketball at AIC next year.

It was the second year in a row that a member of the Granby girls soccer team was selected as the Division 4 girls Player of the Year.

“It’s very special to see two of our players selected as the Player of the Year during the past two years,” said Granby head coach Bob Weaver. “I’ve coached Nora during the past four years and she really deserved to receive the award this year. She’s a tremendous athlete and is a great kid. We’re really going to miss her next year.”

A member of the South Hadley girls soccer team, which captured the Division 3 state title last fall, also received the LAF Scholarship Award for the second consecutive year. Carla Jarrett was the scholarship recipient a year ago and Lindsay Marjanski was this year’s scholarship award winner.

“It feels very nice to be rewarded for all of the hard work that I’ve done,” Marjanski said. “I’ll be attending Holy Cross College and I’m very excited about it.”

Just like Young, Marjanski will be playing a sport other than soccer at the collegiate level. She’ll be a member of the Crusaders women’s track and field team.

“I’ve already met the members of the team,” she said. “I’m looking forward to becoming a member of the track and field team next year. Holy

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## Athlete of the Week



**Tennessee Murphy**  
Monson High School

The Monson seventh grader was a first-team award winner at the LAF dinner on March 8. Murphy had an outstanding first season, including a four-goal game at Southwick early in the year. To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to [gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com)

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### LUSITANO | from page 9

Hampshire Regional.

The Division 4 girls Player of the Year is Nora Young from Granby High School.

“It’s awesome to have been selected as the Division 4 girl’s Player of the Year,” Young said. “I wouldn’t have been able to receive this award without the help of my teammates and coaches.”

Young completed her outstanding high school soccer career with more than 100 career points (Goals & Assists). She was also a member of the Lady Rams varsity basketball team and became the school’s all-time leading scorer in the final game of the regular season.

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“I’ve already met the members of the team,” she said. “I’m looking forward to becoming a member of the track and field team next year. Holy

Cross was the perfect fit for me both academically and athletically.”

Marjanski’s main event is high jump, but she will be able to do all of the events as a college freshman.

The other scholarship award winners are Robert Michalski (East Longmeadow H.S.), Erin Czelusniak (Lenox H.S.), and JT Novitsky (Lenox H.S.).

The members of the Division 1 girls first team are Emily DeGeorge (Agawam High School), Hope Santaniello (Agawam High School), Avery Klingensmith (Belchertown High School), and Brooke Samborski (Belchertown High School), Samantha Breton (Chicopee Comp High School), Emily Howard (Minnechaug Regional), Rhian Ryan (Minnechaug Regional), and Katherine Russell (Minnechaug Regional).

The members of the Division 1 boys first team are Nate Mateus (Agawam High School), Connor Montagna (Agawam High School), Mamadi Jiana (Chicopee High School), Brennan Dort (Chicopee High School), Anthony Quiterio (Ludlow High School), Michael Riley (Ludlow High School), and Michael Tuck Jr. (Ludlow High School).

The members of the Division 3 girls first team are Madelyn Doolittle (South Hadley High School), Anna Evans (South Hadley High School), Teagan Gawron (South Hadley High School), Lindsay Marjanski (South Hadley High School), Paige Marjanski (South Hadley High School), Bridget Sears (South Hadley High School), Tennessee Murphy (Monson High School), Alivia Skowrya (Monson High School), and Madalyn Theriault (Palmer High School).

The members of the Division 3 boys first team are Owen Raines (Belchertown High School), Zach LaJeunesse (Belchertown High School), Korey Houle (Belchertown High School), and Ethan Czapowski (Belchertown High School).

The members of the Division 4 girls first team are Julia Frappier (Granby High School), Nora Young (Granby High School), Julia Gauvin (Granby High School), Emily Vallee (Granby High School), and Caitlin Hess (Ware High School).

The members of the Division 4 boys first team are Logan Gerry (Monson High School), Shawn Jalbert (Monson High School), and Prescott Watson (Monson High School).

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### SOFTBALL | from page 9

viding wipes or other sanitizers to use on bats. On our website we have information constantly being added to keep players advised on what we are doing to ensure safety.”

The commissioner of the league recently emailed players asking them to

use common sense and announce that the season is still on.

The league’s only opposition could come at the local, state, or federal level if the games are not exempted from the gathering restrictions that have been made.

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DEATH NOTICES

**Aldrich, Edward C.**  
Died March 8, 2020  
Burial was March 21, 2020  
Moulton Hill Cemetery

**Knapp, Constance S. (Ryan)**  
Died March 19, 2020  
Services will be private  
Beers & Story Funeral Home

**Lucey, Jeanne M. (Richer)**  
Died February 17, 2020  
All services were private  
Beers & Story Funeral Home

**Siegel, Gladys L.**  
Died March 17, 2020  
Memorial Service  
at a later date  
Beers & Story Funeral Home

O B I T U A R I E S

Edward C. Aldrich, 93

PALMER – Edward C. Aldrich, 93, a longtime Palmer resident died Sunday, March 8, 2020 at the Soldiers Home of Holyoke with his loving niece, Jean, by his side. Edward was born and raised in Monson, a son of the late Arthur C. and Lila E. (Plumley) Aldrich. Edward joined the U.S. Army and served in Germany from 1950 to 1952 for the rebuilding of cities and bridges destroyed during WWII. He then worked many years at Jarvis and Jarvis as a machinist and welder before retiring.

Edward was a very strong and independent man who loved hiking in the woods. He also loved driving to the theatre and watching the movies. He was an extreme car enthusiast with a

vast knowledge of the automobile history. Although Edward never married or had children he was especially fond of his niece Jean who cared for him for his last three years and her companion Anthony Trifone.

Besides his niece Jean and her companion Anthony, he leaves two sisters: Elizabeth Aldrich of Palmer and Joan Dineen of Florida. He also leaves one nephew Robert Aldrich and his wife Kimberlee of Worcester, and three nieces: Georgeanne Lavoie and her companion John Belculfine of Hubbardston, Marilyn Nelson and her husband Stephen of Douglas and Dawn



Dineen of Florida. He also leaves his sister in law Ann Aldrich wife of his deceased brother George Aldrich and several great nieces and nephews.

Edward was predeceased by his two brothers George Aldrich and William Aldrich.

Edward was buried on Saturday March 21, 2020 in the Moulton Hill Cemetery in Monson, MA with Military Honors. Heartfelt thanks to Williamsburg Funeral Home who helped the family with his cremation and arrangements. HampshireCremation.com

Constance Scott (Ryan) Knapp, 82

Constance Scott (Ryan) Knapp, 82, of Putnam, CT passed away March 19, 2020. She was born on September 14, 1937 in Monson, MA to Patrick and Marion (Mosher) Ryan. She was a former Palmer resident until moving to Putnam, CT in 1965. Constance previously worked as a machine operator at Belding Hemmingway in Putnam for over 25 years and then she worked at the Killingly Parks and Recreation as a secretary. Constance loved to socialize, doing arts and crafts, and playing Bingo at her former residence Matulaitis Nursing home and her prior residence at the St. Onge

Apartments in Putnam, CT. She was part of the Putnam Grange, the Danielson Lions Club and previously volunteered at the Fletcher Memorial Library in Hampton, CT. Constance was preceded in death by her loving husband, Theodore R. Knapp, in 2002. She was also predeceased by her siblings, Ruth Denning and James Ryan, sister-in-law Martha Knapp Shephardson, brother-in-law John R. Knapp, niece Linda Anderson, and nephews Arthur Fontaine, Jr. and Duff Denning. Constance will be dearly missed by her two children, Dorcas S. Durand and husband Michael of Danielson,

CT and William R. Knapp and wife Kathleen of Chaplin, CT. She also leaves behind her only granddaughter Brittany Ritter and husband William as well as two great grandchildren Jackson and Sadie Ritter. She will also be deeply missed by her sister-in-law Glenna Rodd and many nieces, nephews and friends that have touched her life over the years. Due to current concerns for everyone's health, services will be private and held at the family's discretion. For more information or to sign the online guest book, please visit [www.beersandstory.com](http://www.beersandstory.com).

Jeanne M. (Richer) Lucey, 73

PALMER – Jeanne M. (Richer) Lucey, 73, of N. Main St, died peacefully on Monday, Feb. 17 in Springfield. Born in Ludlow, August 3, 1946, she was the daughter of Roland and Marie (Riel) Richer. Jeanne has lived in Palmer her whole life and was a graduate of Palmer High School. Jeanne worked and drove for Palmer Taxi for 40 years. In her leisure she enjoyed the Red Sox and Bingo. She will be deeply missed by her 2 chil-

dren Denise Quinn and her husband Ken of Palmer, and Michael Lucey of Barre, VT, along with her 6 precious grandsons, Tim Quinn of Rindge, NH, Mike, Jr., CJ, Patrick, Jonathan and Holden Lucey all of Barre, VT. She also leaves 2 brothers, Thomas Richer and his wife Cederia of Palmer, and



David Richer and his wife Sandy of PA. Besides her parents, she was predeceased by a brother Paul Richer. The family requests that you may remember her by making a donation in her memory to a charity of your choice. All services are private and have been entrusted to Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home. [www.beersandstory.com](http://www.beersandstory.com).

Gladys L. Siegel, 95

PALMER – Gladys L. Siegel, 95, of Palmer passed away March 17, 2020, surrounded by her loving family. She was born on June 3, 1924 in Windsor, Maine to Franklin and Alice (McCurdy) Pierce. Gladys previously worked at the former Monson Developmental Center as a Supervisor of Direct Care. Gladys was preceded in death by her husband Thomas Siegel, Sr. in 1981. She will be dearly missed by her 8 children, Judith King of FL, Nancy Mason of FL, Linda Goding and her husband John of TN, Thomas Siegel, Jr. of NC, Catherine Siegel and her life partner John V. Boudreau,

Jr. of Palmer, Timothy Siegel and his wife Jessica of Palmer, Mary Outhuse and her husband Glen of Palmer, Carol Novak and her husband Gary of Palmer. Gladys is also survived by her eleven grandchildren, Drew King, Amy Odiorne, John Goding, Jr., Thomas R. Siegel, Jacob Siegel, Jessica Boutin and her wife Michelle, Benjamin Eurkus and his wife Grace, Adam Siegel, Eric Outhuse, Michael Outhuse and Kathryn Dygon, six great grandchildren and a great-great grandson. Gladys



was also preceded in death by her brother Edward Sullivan and sister Margaret Kabot. She also leaves behind many nieces and nephews. Due to current concerns for everyone's health, a memorial service will be held at a later date in the spring. Donations in Gladys' name may be made to Overlook Hospice, 88 Masonic Home Rd. #2 Charlton, MA 01507. For more information or to sign the online guest book, please visit [www.beersandstory.com](http://www.beersandstory.com).

Police/Fire

Police Logs

PALMER

The Palmer Police Department responded to a total of 284 calls March 17 through March 24. The Department made six arrests or summons. Those arrested will appear at a future date in the Palmer

District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Wednesday, March 18

Russell Harry Barbour, 60, of 1046 Thorndike St., Palmer, was arrested 4:06 p.m. on Thorndike St. in

Palmer on an arrest warrant.

Sara J. Seymour, 28, of 83 Armstrong St., West Springfield, was arrested at 5:22 p.m., in the area of Highland St. and Squier St. in Palmer, on two arrest warrants.

Fire Logs

PALMER

The Palmer Fire Department responded to 10 calls from March 18 through March 23.

On Wednesday, March 18 at 12:05 p.m., the fire department responded to a smoke detector activation on Buckland St. The department returned to service at 1:10 p.m.

On Wednesday, March 18 at 2:24 p.m., the department responded to a gas leak on North Main St.. The department returned to service at 2:17 p.m.

On Wednesday, March 18 at 11:41 p.m., the department responded to a call that was cancelled en route. The department returned to service at 11:48 p.m.

On Thursday, March 19 at 1:41 p.m., the department provided medical assistance on South Main St. The department returned to service at 2:14 p.m.

On Thursday, March 19 at 4:39 p.m., the department provided medical assistance on Beacon St. The department returned to service at 5:02 p.m.

On Friday, March 20 at 1:27 p.m., the department provided medical assistance on School St. The department returned to service at 1:42 p.m.

On Saturday, March 21 at 9:15 a.m., the department provided medical assistance on Memory Lane. The department returned to service at 9:46 a.m.

On Saturday, March 21 at 10:40 a.m., the department responded to

an oil spill on Stone Street Bridge. The department returned to service at 10:55 a.m.

On Saturday, March 21 at 1:12 p.m., the department responded to an alarm activation on Shearer St. The department returned to service at 1:40 p.m.

On Monday, March 23 at 9:43 a.m., the department responded to an alarm activation on Shearer St. The department returned to service at 9:59 a.m.

The Three Rivers Fire Department responded to a total of two calls from March 18 through March 21.

On Wednesday, March 18 at 2:40 p.m., the department provided mutual aid to the Palmer Fire Department. The department returned to service at 12:18 a.m.

On Saturday, March 21 at 10:55 a.m., the department responded to an EMS incident on Main St. The department to service at 11:21 a.m.

BONDSVILLE

The Bondsville Fire Department responded to a total of six calls from March 17 through March 23.

On Wednesday, March 18 at 2:57 p.m., the department provided to mutual aid to North Main St. in Palmer for a gas leak. The department returned to service at 12:25 a.m.

On Wednesday, March 18 at 4:05 p.m., the department responded to State St. to investigate an unauthorized outside fire. The department extinguished the fire and

STCC unveils Fire Investigation Transfer program

SPRINGFIELD – Starting this fall, Springfield Technical Community College will offer a new option in the Fire Protection and Safety Technology Department: Fire Investigation Transfer.

Students who choose this option will study fire behavior, fire operations, prevention, investigations and criminal law through courses in fire science and criminal justice.

“We’re thrilled to offer this option, which will prepare students to continue their education toward a bachelor’s degree in fire investigation, homeland security or fire science, based on their desired area of interest,” said Julian “Skip” Tenczar, chair of the Fire Protection and Safety Technology Department.

Fire investigators often work for local, state and federal agencies, but also pursue opportunities in the private sector.

According to Tenczar, fire investigators need a sharp eye, dedicated commitment to discovering the truth and the professional integrity to follow their findings through the legal system.

“The Fire Investigation program at STCC can open doors to



SUBMITTED PHOTO

STCC will offer a new Fire Investigation Transfer program this fall. Pictured are two Springfield Fire Department firefighters.

this exciting field where you can make a difference,” Tenczar said.

The program is offered in the evening only, which will give students who work more flexibility, Tenczar said.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, jobs are expected to grow by 8 percent between 2018 and 2028 for fire inspectors and investigators. The median pay

in 2018 was \$60,200.

Students who successfully complete the two-year program will receive an Associate in Science in Fire Protection and Safety Technology.

To learn more about the program and to apply for the fall, visit [stcc.edu/explore/programs/fitr.as/](http://stcc.edu/explore/programs/fitr.as/).

The Journal Register  
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

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## MOBILE HOMES

**MOBILE HOME- DOUBLE WIDE**  
fully furnished, 2 br, 2 bath. New win-  
dows & roof. Corner lot, Clearwater,  
FL. Over 55 complex. \$25,000 or B/O.  
**413-627-4554**

## VACATION RENTALS

**WARM WEATHER IS** Year Round  
in Aruba. The water is safe, and the  
dining is fantastic. Walk out to the  
beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available.  
Sleeps 8. Email: [carolacat@aol.com](mailto:carolacat@aol.com)  
for more information.

## FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this  
newspaper is subject to the Federal  
Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes  
it illegal to advertise any preference,  
limitation or discrimination based on  
race, color, religion, sex, handicap,  
familial status (number of children and  
or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry,  
age, marital status, or any intention to  
make any such preference, limitation or  
discrimination.  
This newspaper will not knowingly accept  
any advertising for real estate that is in  
violation of the law. Our readers are hereby  
informed that all dwellings advertising in  
this newspaper are available on an equal  
opportunity basis. To complain about  
discrimination call The Department of  
Housing and Urban Development " HUD "  
toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E.  
area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll  
free number for the hearing impaired is  
1-800-927-9275.

## CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

**QUABBIN & SUBURBAN  
FRIDAY AT NOON**  
**HILLTOWNS  
MONDAY AT NOON**

## FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

**MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069**  
or call toll free: 800-824-6548

**DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBURBAN - FRIDAY AT NOON**  
**HILLTOWNS - MONDAY AT NOON**

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
			Base Price \$26.00
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00
		23	Base Price \$27.50
24	Base Price \$28.00		
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
		27	Base Price \$29.50
28	Base Price \$30.00		
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
		31	Base Price \$31.50
32	Base Price \$32.00		
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
		35	Base Price \$33.50
36	Base Price \$34.00		
37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00
		39	Base Price \$35.50
40	Base Price \$36.00		

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of charge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!**

**Quabbin Village Hills**  
Circulation: 50,500

**Suburban Residential**  
Circulation: 59,000

**Hilltowns**  
Circulation: 9,800

Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

First ZONE base price

Add a second ZONE

Add a third ZONE

Subtotal

x Number of Weeks

TOTAL Enclosed

Includes additional words

**\$10.00**

**\$5.00**

Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):

☐ Quabbin

☐ Suburban

☐ Hilltowns

# Community CALENDAR

E-mail items to [dfarmer@turley.com](mailto:dfarmer@turley.com) or mail to Calendar Editor, Journal Register, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, for receipt by Monday of week for publication.

## NOW

*Editor's note: Due to the coronavirus pandemic, events featured in the Journal Register, including those previewed in stories, briefs and on the calendar page, may be canceled with little notice. The Journal Register encourages readers to contact event coordinators and organizers for updated event times.*

### INTERESTED IN QUILTING?

The Quaboag Valley Quilters Guild is looking for new members. The Guild meets on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays of the month at 1 p.m. in the basement of the Palmer Historical and Cultural Center, 2072 Main St., Three Rivers. The Guild is a no pressure group with varying degrees of accomplishments, from novice to Big E "Best In Show" winners. The membership fee is \$48 a year. For more information, contact Barbara Beaulieu at 267-4044 or Merry Mombourquette at 283-7577. Follow us on Facebook.

**CHURCH CABOOSE THRIFT SHOP** at Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer has bargains on clothing, household items, linens, books, crafts and more. Come and see Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 283-6958 for more information.

**THE MONSON LIONS CLUB** has a 20-foot x 20-foot tent for rent. The cost is \$75 for a two-day event. The club will put it up and take it down. For more details, contact Curt at 413-668-6653.

**DAY SPRING LODGE A.F. & A.M.** located 14 Bliss St., Monson is making its hall available for rent for \$75 for a variety of parties and functions. For reservations,, call Doug Battige at 413-267-5855 or 413-265-9398.

**RESERVE YOUR CELEBRATION TENT** now for your First Communion,

bridal and baby showers, graduation parties, family reunions, birthday parties or any other kind of celebration you may have outdoors. The Palmer Lions Club has a tent for you, either 20-feet x 20-feet for \$125 or 20-feet x 40-feet for \$200. This includes setup and takedown in the Palmer area. Call Karen at 413-813-8445 to make a reservation. You may need to leave a message and your call will be returned. The Palmer Lions Club tent rental fees go towards assistance for the people of Palmer, Bondsville, Three Rivers and Thorndike.

**MONSON WOODWACKERS** wood carving club will meet every Thursday at Monson Senior Center on Main Street in Monson from 6-8 p.m. The club meets throughout the year. Membership is \$10 for the year, payable in September. Anyone interested should call Barbara Mackintosh at 413-237-8303. There are many beginner projects and experienced teachers, as well, within the club.

**STAINED GLASS MAKING CLASS** will be held on Thursdays at the Holland Community Center from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. or 6-9 p.m. Glass and tools are supplied. Take six classes for \$48. Class sizes are limited and are open to all ages. For more information call Tom Baltazar at 508-245-2525.

**PALMER SALVATION ARMY** Service Extension Unit offers residents in Palmer and Brimfield emergency assistance on a periodic basis. The outreach coordinator will be located on the second floor of St. Paul's Unitarian Universalist Church at 1060 Central St., Palmer. You must schedule an appointment by calling 413-221-8283 so you know what documentation to bring since those seeking assistance have to meet certain criteria and show proof of need. Please leave your name, number and the date you called. Phone messages are checked weekly, not daily.

**BOOKSTORE** at the Unitarian Uni-

versalist Parish of Monson at the corner of Lincoln and Main streets in Monson is open the first Friday of every month from 5:30-7:30 p.m., the third Saturday of every month from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Books priced from 25 cents to \$1 each: fiction, nonfiction, thrillers, horror, mystery, science fiction, how-to, classic literature, children's books, romances, cookbooks, gardening books and more. All proceeds benefit the parish. Donations are accepted. Call Mary at 267-0033 for more information.

**MARTHA'S TABLE STAFF** at the Monson-Glendale United Methodist Church is supporting the Monson Open Pantry by providing a meal once a month to anyone who will bring a non-perishable food item. Staff have begun packing and delivering the meals in cooperation with the Monson Senior Center. The meal is served at the church, 162 Main St., Monson on the third Saturday of each month from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. For more information call 267-3798.

**SENIOR LUNCHEON.** The Monson Council on Aging invites seniors over age 60 to its luncheon program every Monday – Friday at the Monson Senior Center, 106 Main St., Monson. Home cooked meals are always served at noon. The requested donation of \$2.50 includes the entrée, bread, dessert and beverage. Menus are available in the COA newsletter. Luncheon reservations must be made by 2:30 p.m. the day before you would like to come to lunch. For more info or van reservations, call 267-4121.

**GAME NIGHT** will be held at Top Floor Learning at the Palmer Public Library the second Tuesday of each month: Apr. 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept., 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 and Dec. 8, 2020 from 6-7:45 p.m. There is no fee or registration required, and attendants must be 16 years of age or older unless accompanied

by an adult. Games include Scrabble, Cribbage, Monopoly, Rummy, Chess, Checkers, Uno, Yahtzee, Bridge, Skipbo, Crazy 8's, Hearts, Dominos, etc. Attendees may bring their own. For more information call 283-2329 or email [palewis19@yahoo.com](mailto:palewis19@yahoo.com).

**MAKE A DONATION** to the Monson Free Library in honor of a special person or family member, in the form of a book, DVD or CD, audio book or magazine subscription. The person will receive a letter informing them of your gift. The cost of donations is \$25 for a book, \$20 for a CD or DVD, \$100 for an audio book and \$20 for a magazine subscription. For more information call 267-3866.

## CANCELLATIONS

**THE EASTER EGG HUNT** sponsored by the Polish National Alliance Council 62 of Chicopee, MA to be held on April 4, 2020 at 11:30 AM at Camp Stanica in Bondsville, MA is canceled for this year. The reason is due to the coronavirus and the restrictions of Governor Baker on limiting public gatherings of more than 25 people. We hope to see you next year. If you have any questions, please contact Terry Sherman at 413-596-9578 or E-mail [Terrysherm@aol.com](mailto:Terrysherm@aol.com).

**THE SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH** of Palmer is canceling its Lenten Lunches due to the coronavirus.

## ONGOING

**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP** Please join us at 6 p.m. every first Thursday of the month at Palmer Healthcare Center, 250 Shearer St. Palmer. Light refreshments will be served Contact Kate Martin at 413-283-8361 for more information.

## Public Notices

### LEGAL NOTICE MONSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapt. 131, s.40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Wednesday **April 1, 2020 at 8:00 P.M.** in the Public Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 110 Main St. Under consideration is a Request for a Determination of Applicability to determine if the boundaries of resource areas depicted on the plan are accurate and whether the work associated with the proposed construction of a SFH located on Lot 1B Stafford Hollow Rd, Map 105, Parcel 2E is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. Property owner & applicant Maria Roxo filed the request.

Submitted by:  
**Monson Conservation Commission**  
3/26/2020

### LEGAL NOTICE MONSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapt. 131, s.40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday **April 1, 2020 at 7:30 P.M.** in the Public Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 110 Main St. Under consideration is a Notice of Intent for the construction of a SFH, driveway, well, sanitary sewage disposal system and other associated activities at 12 Hancock Road, Map 20, Parcel 7. The proposed project will result in approximately 20,432 sf of disturbance within the 200' riparian zone and 8,310 sf of disturbance in the 100' riparian zone. Vincent Zanetti filed the request, John Colton is

the property owner.

Submitted by:  
**Monson Conservation Commission**  
3/26/2020

### LEGAL NOTICE MONSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapt. 131, s.40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday **April 1, 2020 at 7:45 P.M.** in the Public Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 110 Main St. Under consideration is a Notice of Intent for the construction of an 18' wide gravel common access driveway, stormwater facilities and 2 SFH's with private wells and sewage disposal systems at 15 Waid Road, Map 30, Parcel 12V. The proposed project includes approximately 23,495 sf of disturbance within the 100' buffer zone and 1,825 sf of disturbance within the 25' wetland offset. John Goodrich II, owner and applicant, filed the request.

Submitted by:  
**Monson Conservation Commission**  
3/26/2020

### PALMER PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A, Section 11, M.G.L. the Palmer Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Monday, April 6, 2020 at 7:00 PM** in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA.

The applicant, Mint Cultivation Facilities, LLC, is seeking a Special Permit, Site Plan Approval and a Finding as required by sections 171.28 – Special Permit, 171.67- Industrial A District , 171.29 – Site

Plan Approval, 171-124 – Marijuana Establishments, and 171.83 – Pre-Existing, Non-Conforming Uses, Structures, Lots for the operation of a marijuana cultivation and manufacturing facility at the property located at 25 Ware Street, Palmer, MA. This parcel is also known as Assessor's Map 73, Lot 57.

A copy of the application may be inspected at the Planning Department office in the Town Administration Building from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Thursday.

Anyone interested in more information or wishing to be heard on the application can contact the Planning Department at 413-283-2605 or appear at the time and place designated above.

This notice shall also be posted on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association's (MNPA) website (<http://masspublicnotices.org>).

**Michael Marciniak, Chairman**  
3/19, 3/26/20

### LEGAL NOTICE MONSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapt. 131, s.40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Wednesday **April 1, 2020 at 7:15 P.M.** in Room 112, Town Office Building, 110 Main St. Under consideration is a Request for a Determination of Applicability to determine if the work associated with the installation of a new septic tank, leach field and associated activities located at 102 Brimfield Road is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. Property owner Scott Malo filed the request.

Submitted by:  
**Monson Conservation Commission**  
3/26/2020

### LEGAL NOTICE MONSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapt. 131, s.40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Wednesday **April 1, 2020 at 8:15 P.M.** in Room 112, Town Office Building, 110 Main St. Under consideration is a Request for a Determination of Applicability to determine if the boundaries of resource areas are accurately delineated in order to avoid impacting wetlands during vegetation management under the CSX Transportation Railroad Vegetation Management Plan. Property owner CSX Transportation, Inc. filed the request.

Submitted by:  
**Monson Conservation Commission**  
March 26, 2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD20P0562EA**

**Estate of:  
Maurice Esdras Dufresne  
Date of Death: 12/14/2019  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION**  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by: **Virginia R. Wright** of Feeding Hills MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested

in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Virginia R. Wright** of Feeding Hills MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on **04/21/2020**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED  
ADMINISTRATION  
UNDER THE  
MASSACHUSETTS  
UNIFORM PROBATE  
CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Hon. Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: March 19, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
3/26/2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD20A0012AD**

**In the matter of:  
Kyle Anthony Nelson  
CITATION  
G.L. c. 210, § 6**  
To: Kristopher Leonard Nelson

any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.

A petition has been presented to said court by: **Rachel Wiesner o/w Rachel Marie Wiesner** of Palmer, MA requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to

**Kyle Anthony Wiesner**  
**If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent person.** An indigent person is defined by SJC Rule 3:10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran's benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT: **Springfield ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: 04/15/2020**

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 2, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
3/12, 3/19, 3/26/2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD20P0515EA**

**Estate of:  
David F. Reed  
Date of Death: 04/17/2019  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by: **Sandra J. Sheldon** of Palmer, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Sandra J. Sheldon** of Palmer, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on **04/10/2020**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the

**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED  
ADMINISTRATION  
UNDER THE  
MASSACHUSETTS  
UNIFORM PROBATE  
CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: March 11, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
3/26/2020

WE'VE EXPANDED OUR WEB SITE  
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ARE NOW ONLINE**

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3

Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com)

Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

**VISIT  
[www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)**

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

## STCC offers online workforce development training

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield Technical Community College's Workforce Development Center offers a range of online courses available 24 hours a day from any device with an internet connection.

Online education at STCC combines interactive exercises, mini-cases, video and focused reading to ensure courses are not only engaging but that students learn.

"With many people staying home during these challenging times, now is an ideal time to take advantage of our affordable online learning programs to improve your skills or learn new ones," said Dave Buonora, assistant vice president of workforce development.

Among the variety of programs, STCC offers a Managing Remote Employees course, which may be helpful for employers trying to figure out the best way to manage employees working from home or offsite. The course is part of MindEdge Web-Based Education's management suite.

Job-seekers, including workers who have been laid off, also may qualify for short-term training options through MassHire.

Students who are enrolling for the purpose of meeting professional certification or licensing requirements are strongly advised to check with their specific certification or licensing authority to ensure that course content meets any requirements that have been established by that licensing or certification body.

STCC partners with the following Web-based education providers to offer online education:

•MindEdge Web-Based Education: MindEdge is a provider of online continuing education courses designed to help students improve professional knowledge and skills. Courses are available 24 hours a day from any device with an internet connection.

•Ed2Go Web-Based Education: Education to Go is an online educational content, technology and services company for higher education. They offer hundreds of online courses to assist students in finding a new career or prepare them for advancement in their current position. The programs provide an engaging, supportive, and convenient environment. They are completely online and available 24/7 so they work with any schedule.

•Online Career Training: Career Training Programs are designed by a team of experts from their respective fields. They work to provide students with a highly effective web-based learning experience. Learn in-demand skills recognized by employers. Most programs prepare students for national certification. Students can start anytime, and work at their own pace. Textbooks and learning materials are included, also loans are available. Expert instructor assistance provided.

•Professional Development for Fitness Industry: STCC has partnered with W.I.T.S. (World Instructor Training School), an organization that has been training and certifying fitness professionals for more than 24 years.

For more information, contact the Workforce Development Center at 755-4225, email [wdc@stcc.edu](mailto:wdc@stcc.edu) or visit [www.stcc.edu/wdc](http://www.stcc.edu/wdc).

## NENPA Journalism scholarships available

Aspiring journalists are encouraged to apply for a New England Newspaper and Press Association scholarship through the Journalism Education Foundation of New England.

High school seniors and college students studying and acquiring work experience preparing them for a career in journalism are eligible to apply.

To qualify, students must be a resident of New England, be a high school senior or college undergraduate studying journalism or a related field, and have GPA of 3.0 or higher. Additionally, applicants must demonstrate a serious interest in journalism by sending a cover letter, transcript, resume or biography, letter of recommendation and a body of published work in a school news publication, general circulation newspaper or similar publication or a body of work prepared for a journalism class.

The deadline for applications is March 27.

For more information or applications, visit [nenpa.com/students/scholarships](http://nenpa.com/students/scholarships).

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Kimberly A. Dewey, M.D.

Kimberly J. Martins, M.D.  
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### Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine

is pleased to announce that

**JONATHAN ROSENSTEIN, M.D.**

has joined our staff.



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## Elms College to conduct classes online through spring semester

CHICOPEE – As a precautionary measure in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the College of Our Lady of the Elms will move all classes online for the remainder of the spring 2020 semester, effective March 23, College President Harry E. Dumay recently announced.

"The health and safety of our students, faculty and staff are our highest priorities," Dumay said. "As this unprecedented crisis and state of emergency continues to unfold, campus leadership has determined that the best course of action to ensure the safety of Elms College constituents and the wider community will be to move all classes completely online for the rest of the spring semester. This change is for all programs and all locations."

Dumay added that if conditions drastically improve in the coming weeks, campus leadership may revisit the decision and could transition classes back to campus after ample notification to students, faculty and staff.

All academic, athletic, and co-curricular on-campus events have been canceled for the rest of the 2019-2020 academic year.

Students who have off-campus educational activities, including nursing clinicals, student teaching, social work field placement, CSD practicum, internships, etc., will receive specific updates directly from their dean or division chair, the college announced.

Students with campus employment as a graduate assistant or a student employee, are asked to contact their supervisor for further guidelines and instructions.

Residence halls will remain closed for the rest of the academic year. Students who have been allowed to remain on campus due to exceptional circumstances will continue to do so. Resident students will be expected to move out of the residence halls by April 1. Students will receive an email from residence life with the check-out procedures and options.

As of March 18, there have been no reported cases of coronavirus within the Elms community. Elms College officials communicate regularly with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and also have a multidisciplinary Health Emergency Preparedness Committee monitoring the situation.

Students and their families may find the latest information about Elms College's virus-related policies and frequently asked questions online at [www.elms.edu/coronavirus](http://www.elms.edu/coronavirus).

## Big Y announces new appointments

SPRINGFIELD – Big Y Foods Inc. recently announced several new appointments within the super-market chain.

Among them, Jasmine A. Earl, of Wilbraham, has been named food service sales manager at the East Longmeadow store.

"At Big Y, we are committed to providing the tools and training necessary to support our employees in their development," Michael Galat, vice president of employee services, said. "We look forward to their continued growth in the pursuit of excellence as they personally develop their own skills in order to take on these new levels of responsibility."

Big Y operates 83 locations throughout Massachusetts and Connecticut, including Boston Road in Wilbraham.

### NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Journal Register, please email [dfarmer@turley.com](mailto:dfarmer@turley.com).

A TURLEY PUBLICATION  
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### STAFF WRITER POSITION

Turley Publications is seeking an energetic person to fill the position of staff writer for two of its weekly publications: the *Ware River News*, which covers Ware, Hardwick and Warren, and the *Quabog Current*, which covers the Brookfields, Sturbridge and New Braintree. This full-time position is based in our Ware office at 80 Main St. The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills or the enthusiasm to develop them.

The staff writer will cover municipal meetings, features and general news; essentially everything that unfolds in small towns. Assignments will be for both newspapers as well as other companywide publications.

#### Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- Own camera and photography experience preferred
- Enthusiasm for community journalism
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced environment

Please email resume and three writing samples directly to Eileen Kennedy Managing Editor at [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com).

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Dakin Humane Society donated health care supplies to Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

## Dakin donates supplies to Baystate

SPRINGFIELD – Dakin Humane Society donated its in-house quantity of disposable surgical gowns and booties, along with other personal protective equipment to help Baystate Medical Center in its efforts to curb the effects of COVID-19. Dakin's Director of Operations Karina King said, "We've seen news stories about the need for protective equipment being faced by those in human health care, so we reached out to Baystate Medical Center because they're local. On Friday, March 20, several cases of equipment were carried out of Dakin's Springfield Adoption Center and loaded into a van and a trailer that brought the goods to Baystate. In addition to the gowns and booties, other items included nitrile examination gloves, surgical masks with attached face shields and caps. According to King, "We anticipated that human health workers would need these supplies soon, so we recently stopped using disposable items at Dakin and found alternative equipment including smocks that could be laundered and re-used instead of being disposed of. It's part of our responsibility as community members that when we have items that human health

care workers need, we want to ensure that they have what they need to keep themselves, and us, healthy." Dakin itself has felt the effects of the COVID-19 crisis, and has restructured its staff to cover its most vital programs including adoptions, pet surrenders and emergency pet owner-requested euthanasia. While its two adoption centers are currently closed to the public, people seeking these services can call Dakin at 413-781-4000 and staff will assist them. Dakin Humane Society delivers effective, innovative services that improve the lives of animals in need and the people who care about them from its two locations in Leverett and Springfield. The organization shelters, treats and fosters more than 20,000 animals each year and has performed over 92,000 spay/neuter surgeries since 2009, making it New England's largest spay/neuter provider.

Dakin is a local nonprofit organization that relies solely on contributions from individuals and businesses that care about animals to bring its services to the community. For more information, visit [www.dakin-humane.org](http://www.dakin-humane.org).

## HCC Foundation opens 2020-21 scholarship season

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Community College Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2020-2021 academic year.

More than \$200,000 in awards is available for incoming, continuing and transferring HCC students.

The application deadline is Wednesday, March 25, 2020.

Students must be currently enrolled at HCC or have been accepted for the upcoming academic

year to be eligible for scholarships, which are awarded through the HCC Foundation, HCC's nonprofit fundraising corporation.

Applicants need only fill out a single online form to be automatically matched with the scholarships they are most qualified to receive. There are scholarships for new students, current students and students transferring to other institutions, scholarships based on financial need, scholarships for

student in specific majors, scholarships for residents of certain communities, and scholarships that recognize academic achievement.

To begin the application process, go to [www.hcc.edu/scholarships](http://www.hcc.edu/scholarships).

Questions should be directed to the HCC Foundation office at 413-552-2182 or Donahue 170 on the HCC campus, 303 Homestead Ave.

## Banks to remain open, customers urged to bank electronically

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Bankers Association announced that banks throughout the commonwealth will remain open while keeping their customers and employees safe.

According to Gov. Charlie Baker's order issued March 23, financial institutions such as banks are considered essential services and will not be subject to the closure. "While we strongly encourage all Massachusetts residents to heed the Governor's stay at home advisory and use online or mobile banking, consumers will continue to have access to banking services during the mandatory non-essential business

closure," said Daniel J. Forte, MBA president and CEO. "The safest place for your money right now is in your local bank where it is insured up to \$250,000 by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Many Massachusetts banks also have excess insurance to protect your funds." Consumers needing access to banking services should check with their institution, as many banks have closed branch lobbies, reduced hours or shifted to drive-through only at some locations in an effort to protect their customers and employees, the MBA advises. However, bank staff are available to serve customers and answer questions. In

addition, access to funds through online and mobile banking, ATMs and at point of sale transactions remains available during this time.

The Massachusetts Bankers Association represents 135 commercial, savings, cooperative, and federal savings banks and savings and loan associations with approximately \$380 billion in local assets, 72,000 employees across Massachusetts and New England, over 2,000 ATMs, and donate more than \$105 million annually to social agencies and charitable organizations across the commonwealth. For more information, visit [www.massbankers.org](http://www.massbankers.org).

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